The Haunted Red House

Inside Greece's Most Chilling Mansion

By Paul Dale Roberts, Halo Paranormal Investigations

My sister once lived on the island of Santorini in Greece for five years with her first husband, a certified archaeological scuba diver. During that time, she came to believe what many locals already accept — that Greece is a land where history and the supernatural are deeply intertwined.

Some Greeks even hold to the enduring legend that Santorini was once part of the lost city of Atlantis. Across the country, mythology and history overlap in powerful ways. The ancient Greeks told stories of the Olympian gods — Hera, Poseidon, Athena, Apollo, Artemis, and Ares — who were said to reside atop Mount Olympus, presided over by Zeus.

Further north, on the slopes of Mount Parnassus, lies the legendary Oracle of Delphi, where seekers once traveled for divine guidance. It's no surprise, then, that Greece carries a reputation for mystery — a place where ancient echoes may still linger.

The 1917 Fire

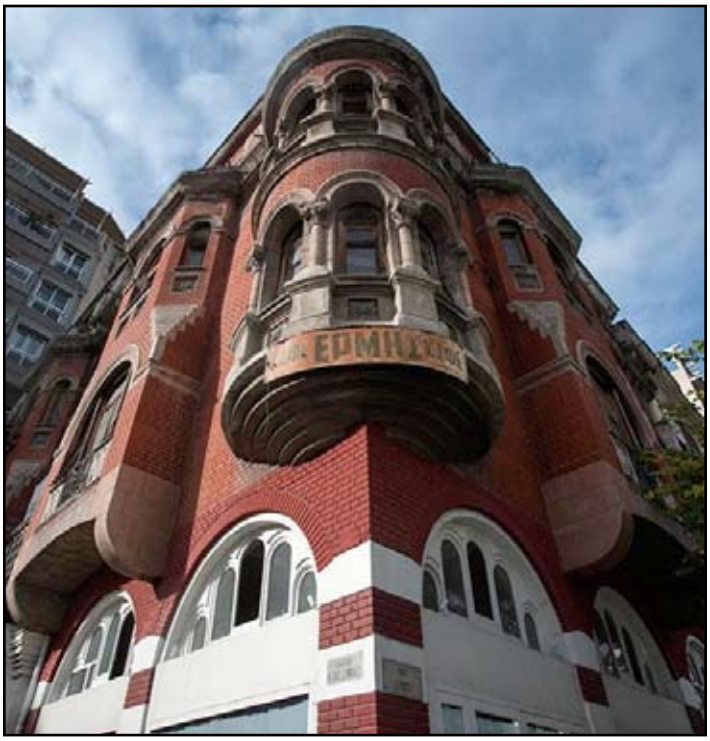
My sister once visited what locals consider one of the most haunted buildings in Greece: the so-called Red House, formally known as the Logos Mansion. It stands in Thessaloniki at the intersection of Agia Sophia and Ermou streets, its striking red-brick exterior giving rise to its nickname.

Despite its haunted reputation, the mansion is relatively modern. It was constructed in 1926 by a wealthy industrialist named Ioannis Logos, who owned a prosperous textile enterprise.

Yet the land beneath it carries a darker history.

In 1917, Thessaloniki was devastated by one of the most destructive urban fires in modern European history — the Great Thessaloniki Fire of 1917. The blaze destroyed approximately 9,500 homes, left around 70,000 people homeless and claimed numerous lives.

The Red House stands within the area affected by this fire, a tragedy that reshaped much of the city's historic center. Many locals believe that tragedy never truly left



The Red House, also known as Logos Mansion, stands in Thessaloniki's historic center — a striking landmark shaped by tragedy and legend.

the site. According to witnesses, strange shadows move through the Red House. Visitors have reported sudden sensations of intense heat, as though standing inside a fire, only for the feeling to vanish seconds later. Some claim to have seen ghostly figures with burned, disfigured faces.

When the mansion was completed, Logos and his family occupied the top floor, while the lower levels were leased for commercial use.

The Crawling Man

Stories surrounding the mansion suggest that its misfortune began almost immediately. Locals whispered that the land was cursed — not because of a single incident

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tied only to the property, but because of the widespread devastation that had occurred in the surrounding area.

Soon after moving in, the Logos family experienced a series of tragedies. A factory they owned in Naousa was destroyed by fire. A construction business failed. Not long after, Ioannis Logos fell ill and died. Within weeks, his wife also passed away under unclear circumstances.

Following their deaths, reports emerged of a disturbing apparition known as "The Crawling Man."

Witnesses described a figure dressed in tattered clothing, crawling along the mansion's hallways on his knees. His right arm would stretch outward, as if reaching for help — or something unseen. The sightings were fleeting, lasting only seconds before the figure vanished.

He crawls the halls — and then vanishes.

Vampires and People on Fire

Over time, the Red House became the subject of widespread rumors across Greece. At one point, a group of unusual tenants moved into the building, prompting locals to speculate — half seriously, half in fear — that they were vampires.

Strange symbols reportedly appeared on the walls. At night, neighbors claimed to hear screams echoing from within. Some even described seeing figures engulfed in flames running down the street, only to disappear without a trace.

Eventually, the mysterious tenants left, and the mansion stood largely vacant for years. The building has since housed ground-floor cafés and small businesses at various times, while much of the structure remained underutilized.

By day, these establishments typically operate as expected. But after dark, employees and owners have reported unsettling occurrences — whispering voices, unexplained touches, and the sound of distant crying. Objects have reportedly been moved or thrown without explanation, particularly inside the café.

Whether these accounts stem from lingering trauma, local legend, or something more difficult to explain, the Red House remains one of Thessaloniki's most enduring paranormal mysteries — a place where history, tragedy, and folklore continue to blur the line between the living and the dead. ◆